

The Mafia, CIA and Bush Senior - Pete Brewton, Author, Journalist (1992) Part 2 of 2

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▫ Alternative Views

484. THE MAFIA, THE CIA AND GEORGE BUSH (PART II) (1992)

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Former reporter for the "Houston Chronicle," Pete Brewton tells of one of the most momentous stories of the past 50 years and how it has been suppressed by the establishment media and the Congress. Pete's book "The Mafia, CIA and George Bush*," shows the incredible complexity of the relationships in the operation of the destruction of hundreds of Savings and Loans at the hands of the CIA and the Mafia, stealing many billions of dollars in the process, and leaving the taxpayers to bailout the banks. Big names at the state and national levels of power are involved, including Lloyd Bentsen, the Bush family, and power brokers in Houston. People such as Kenneth Keating and Don Dixon, who are mentioned prominently in the press in connection with the S & L debacle, were merely front men or "cutouts" for the main movers. Keating and his ilk only took millions; the CIA and the Mafia looted billions.

- George H. W. Bush (Bush Senior)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_H._W._Bush

▫ Pete Brewton

http://www.depts.ttu.edu/masscom/utilities/get_biog.php?record=8

<http://www.webcitation.org/5v4YQ2uHl>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pete_Brewton

▫ S & L debacle

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Savings_and_loan_crisis

▫ Houston Chronicle

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Houston_Chronicle

<http://www.chron.com/>

▫ Houston Post

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Houston_Chronicle

▫ BOOK: The Mafia, CIA and George Bush - by Pete Brewton (1992)

<http://www.amazon.com/Mafia-CIA-George-Bush/dp/1561712035>

Excerpts from his book:

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/JFKbrewton.htm>

☞ BOOK: Lone Star Law (Novel, 2006)

<http://www.amazon.com/Lone-Star-Law-Pete-Brewton/dp/0595400930>

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dan you start saying something big is going on here and you start pushing I mean if we had run into the roadblocks we might have stopped with that first story but when you start running and everywhere people covering up the government not doing anything nobody's seeming to care where are these billions of dollars went our care to try to get them back that's when you start looking for you you know you know you've got a big story and I told the editor who was Alice Mayhew who was Bob Woodward's and a very famous editor you know that the book needed to go before the election we needed to get going and she said she wasn't going to do that we're not going to do the book before the election and I said why not you know all the stuff about Bruce the American public needs to know and she said quote George Bush has got to win anyway his writings on the mob the CIA and George Bush have been ignored by the irregular media and the Congress subjected to censorship in Houston but now Pete Bruton talks freely on alternative views

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welcome to the second part of our alternative views interview with author Pete Bruton Pete is just published a book called the Mafia CIA and George Bush and on our last program we told how he analyzed the connection between the CIA and the S&L fraud and how he discovered that George Bush and his family unsavory folks connected to the CIA and the Mafia as well as associates of Texas bigshots such as senator Lloyd Benson and Houston power broker Walter Mischer were all involved in the SNL fraud which was one of the greatest u.s. financial catastrophes and crimes in our history today however we're going to talk about how Pete came to break the story about his experiences as a Houston Post reporter in which he discovered the connections between the SNL and the CIA scandal how he decided to write a book his experiences with Simon & Schuster and how he finally got his book published and what the response of the book by the media is Barron you've been tracking this SNL thing for a long time what is the magnitude of the scandal well we we all hear about is going to cost taxpayers about five hundred billion dollars now that includes a little over two hundred billion of actual losses that the SNL's have incurred that failed that the taxpayers are going to have to pay back but when you throw in interest in carrying costs you get over five hundred billion dollars in direct cost that the other costs are almost as bad what these

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costs are almost as bad what these fraudulent SNL's did was create an artificial real estate bubble where they inflated real estate values artificially very much and then the bubble burst and that sort of spread out that the fallout from that spread to the banks and insurance companies and any other financial institutions that were lending on on real estate and so one of the reasons the banks are in big trouble the real estate portfolio and the larger a a such a portfolio Bank has the more trouble it's in so that the effect spread out through the economy in the real estate value so it's not just five hundred billion which is an incredible hit but also the indirect real estate affects I guess also you could crank into this the amount of money that was skimmed and stolen by all these people was money which did not go into productive resources so that we're losing out from that aspect also absolutely I mean when you think about somebody is estimated that the actual cost when we start paying back to tonight's mayor is going to be twenty five billion dollars a year from now on forever you think about what twenty five billion dollars every year what we could have used for that and then when you think about the money was basically looted and stolen and that congressman Justice Department are not trying to get it back and that's one of the keys to all this is tracing the money and also trying to recover it there's been none of that I mean Congress doesn't want to do it because they're involved up to their eyeballs we start tracing this money like you did with the Keating five you find it comes in somewhere it comes back to their own campaign trick in the chest and the Justice Department which is controlled by the the president of course has not tried to track the money they're interested in just getting the frontman and the cutouts in the middle in the cop guilty pleas and go to jail maybe for a year or two and then go on

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maybe for a year or two and then go on to the next one so they racked up all these convictions but they don't try to really figure out what happened and where the money went who benefited one of the reasons why the government has not done any real prosecution or investigation of this scandal is because they've been involved in it going all the way to the top up to George Bush we didn't really get into last time the complicity of George Bush's son Neal in a SNL scandal the Silverado case perhaps we can go into that as an illustration of how the S&L scandal work and the complicity top establishment officials in this crisis sure we all know that Neal was a director of Silverado savings in Denver Colorado and that when he was on the board of directors he was being supported financially by a couple of days Denver businessman named Kim good and Bill Walters at the same time Walters and good were borrowing huge amounts of money from Silverado and in fact Neal got his hand slapped in administrative action for approving loans to his business associate bill Walters what we don't know what hasn't come out really before or the connections between not only good and Walters but to other silverado borrowers to mafia people and to the CIA and we find that if you look at Bill Walters bill Walters was the largest borrower at several out of savings he signed on about a hundred and thirty million dollars of loans in addition he sold property to silver out of about ninety million dollars Walters was a Denver architect Walters and his partners including a guy named Richard Ross Miller were involved in the Texas Rena bank scandal back in the mid 70s with Herman KBB I mean Dede was in bed Barnes were involved in deals with these people and DB specifically had transferred about a million dollars to Richard Ross Miller built their Walter's partner and

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Miller built their Walter's partner and they had all owned a bank in Marshall Texas that was involved in the Texas Renta bank scandal and we found that Walters was also apparently and had been accused of transferring some of his ill-gotten gains to a trust on the Isle of Jersey that was being funneled drug money was being laundered through it by people in Miami and SNL money from people like Robert Corson the CIA agent was going also going through this trust fund Ken good who borrowed over 40 million dollars from Silverado and was Neil Bush his sugar daddy for several years had also borrowed money from Western savings and down it was part of the Herman KBB circle the biggest company that actually dealt with Silverado was MDC Holdings it was whose chief executive is Larry my cell my cell was a big Republican

donor he held fundraisers that George Bush went to and Mizell had established trust funds by gun by a Chicago law firm whose partner was Burton canter Burton Kanter was one of the founding fathers of Castle Bank and Trust the bank and the Bahamas at the Mafia and the CIA were using he was involved with CIA projects mafia projects in California and other mafia figures and here we have his trust you know Larry Meisels trust fund being set up by Burton Cantor's law firm and Burton Kanter was also a close associate of Lawrence Freeman to Miami lawyer who had worked for paul Helliwell the CIA founding father and works for the Mafia and had been involved in the big florida land deal that Robert Corson's S&L was funding we find this circle you start pulling on this thread you look at the

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pulling on this thread you look at the people involved and still write on your back with the Mafia the CIA now how did you Bush get involved in all of this what was his initial connection with Silverado what did he get out of it Neil Bush had gone to Denver after getting out of college and it was a land man for Amoco I believe which me and he went tried to secure leases so they could drill on the land and then Bill Walters and Ken good set him up in his own company okay they were both big Republican donor kid good went to the inauguration party with Neil Bush in Houston in 1988 when Bush won Bush visited Bill Walker's home in the 1984 campaign Bill Walters tore up all his brown grass and laid new green grass on his lawn just for George Bush's visit they were pumping money into neo Bush's company there was drilling dry holes in Wyoming was not making any money he was being basically salary of being paid by these people and his company got a big line of credit at Bill Walters Bank so they were supporting him Ken good put him on the board of directors of a Florida company had was paying him over \$100,000 a year in directors fees outrageous twelve million dollars I mean \$12,000 a month was going to Neil Bush for just serving on Ken Goods board they were basically keeping him going and he had protection money it sounds like well you know it's almost somebody made the analogy that Neil Bush was sort of like the driver of the getaway car and you know the cops weren't got to shoot at the president's son and so far all we've had is one indictment the the CEO Michael Weis is the only indictment so far on Silverado savings now what about Neil Bush and Silverado what role did he play well he was in particular a director and he approved loans to his buddy bill Walters he also

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loans to his buddy bill Walters he also approved loans to the second largest borrower Silverado was a Houston con man then he tried Starnes storage bar at 77 1/2 million dollars from Silverado six months after he donated \$30,000 to the contrast and when it had a meeting with Ronald Reagan and Oliver North and he also borrowed over 25 million dollars from Continental savings in Houston that was supported by mafia money from Herman KBB and Stearns was also involved with John riddle the guy who was transshipping arms to the Middle East and had had gotten support from allied bank Walter Misha was banging and he turns out to be the second largest borrower at Silverado savings so Neil Bush was was basically just sitting on the board almost like a figurehead but approving these loans and you know helping his buddies out and getting paid also for it is a drug that's correct although not nearly as much as he got from from being a director I'm kidding company let's talk about how you got this incredible story now your book is to me a masterpiece in the sense that everything is so complex there's so many interconnections and so many layers of activity and yet you were able to lay it out so that it makes sense and you can follow it my first question is how did you get all this voluminous material and keep track of it I've been working on it for over five years I mean anybody can probably collect that much information in five years you know I've got three four-drawer file cabinets full of documents that support all this information but I mean you just take one step at a time and when I first started on the SNL story in the spring of 87 and looking at one deal at Mainland savings in Houston but when it failed in 86 was the largest failure in the country and

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the largest failure in the country and you start running into roadblocks and people not talking you can't get documents and nobody is being prosecuted the money hadn't been tracked and nobody's trying to get the money back can you start saying something big is going on here and you start pushing I mean if we had run into the roadblocks we might have stopped with that first story but when you start running and everywhere people covering up the government not doing anything nobody's seeming to care where are these billions of dollars went are cared to try to get them back that's when you start looking for you know you know you've got a big story and so you just keep going I mean everywhere I looked I found something it was like I mean being in the oil business everywhere you dig a hole you hit oil I mean every rock you turn over something scurries out from under it and it's just it was a wonderful story in that sense well you have I mean divorce decrees were significant thank you like this yeah well you know that the SNL's do not the documents that the S nails are not public the loan documents where the money went to closing documents the public can get a reporters cannot get them we cannot track the money we don't ask the peanut power so the things you rely on our lawsuits and deed records basically and so the divorce decrees are in divorce lawsuits are very they have a lot of good information in them let's go into the history of how you actually came to write this book starting with your first stories with the Houston post in the spring of 86 I was working on stories involving charitable foundations and hospitals that were not doing enough services for the poor and a business report at the post named Greg C got an anonymous call from a guy that we had we dealt with for over two years and we his nickname was DT which was you know a shark for deep throat and for a long time we didn't

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throat and for a long time we didn't even know who he was well this guy calls up Greg and tells him he should start investigating mainland Savings and there its deals with a man named Howard Pulver so Greg starts doing this and we eventually found out at Pulver and his partners had over 300 companies and they were doing deals with mainland all over Houston and Greg just found himself drowning in a sea of records there were thousands and thousands of pages of records in the the real property records of Harris County on these deals with mainland so I was asked just to come help him sort out the records and we did that and then we went and interviewed Raymond Hill the chief executive officer of mainland savings and Hills attitude was was the most arrogant and I've ever encountered in my career as a reporter and basically he accused us at one point of stumbling in the same direction as the FBI and I knew I had a big story just the way he was acting like we can't touch him and and sort of really thumbing his nose at us that I knew that there was a big story there and and we immediately ran into the Mafia there was a when we were trying to track the deal with Howard Palmer who lived in Kings Point Long Island outside New York and his partners were off in New York City that came down and took close to 100 million dollars out of mainland say these left them with with promissory notes that were worth you know probably less than ten million dollars and a huge rip are then contributed greatly to the failure of mainland savings at the same time he was doing this mario Rinda was brokering money into mainland in fact there was an indictment in brooklyn by the organized crime strike force talking about the money mario Renda was skimming off of his

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mario Renda was skimming off of his deposits and placing in various SNL's and one of them was mainland so we knew we had something maybe went up to New York City and we found rendus partner in this was a guy named Martin Schwimmer who was also laundering money for the Lucchese Mafia family okay when we went to talk to to howard Pulver and to mark sure we found they lived across the street from each other in Kings Point New York which is a very wealthy suburban Enclave on the North Shore of Long Island very exclusive and so here we had Schwimmer pumping maybe a hundred million dollars in deposits in the mainland and the guy lives across the street women taking about a hundred million dollars out the back door and so we knew he had something very big then and then when he found we started tracking Rendon and then we heard about Herman KBB Louisiana mafia associate who was involved in all the failed Texas s Mills we started tracking BB and then we find BB and Renda together it's so many different plate here's a New York Mafia associate in a Louisiana mafia associate both at the same places the same times across the country so we know we knew that there was a big big story here who are you shocked or surprised to see

that the mafia was active in looting these sno banks in Texas or had you studied organized crime before just on a couple of occasions we'd run into I mean that the myth is there's no organized crime in Texas and it's it's wrong it's just flat wrong now they're out there for a small indigenous Mafia families in Texas with a little big Mafia family but it Texas is basically under the aegis of the Louisiana the cost Marcelo Mafia family and there's there's a lots of mafia activity in Texas I mean of course anytime you have you know people like

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anytime you have you know people like the old Texas oilman that naturally like to gamble I mean the way the Mafia gets their their foot in the door and their fingers into a community a new communities through gambling I mean that's the way to do it and of course all men naturally love anybody likes to Gamble's got all that money I mean they're gonna have to if you bet big on anything illegally you're dealing with the Mafia probably where you know it or not and if you don't pay up you're going to find out in a hurry there's a price today yeah and and that we found that if you look at all the the congressional crime committees and they're studying of course Marcel II find in one case where he was talking to a Houston law man named Josie in one case and and we find John Meachem jr. the Houston oil in dealing with the Marcelo's so it means you find them in Texas and dealing with a lot of the big wheeler dealers and power brokers the story was this was running in the Houston post but I've noticed in studying local power structures in the media that the usually the local media don't take on or expose any of the activities of local power brokers but you were writing about Mischer well I was writing about him but none of the stories on Missha are running yeah when we had done we spent two years working on the Mafia and then we found out about the CIA and I spent another year working on the CIA and that's when I ran into Misha's former son-in-law Robert Corson and then all the connections when I started looking at Mischer the connections have measured to the SNL players and that took me about a year to do and in the fall of 1989 we were ready to run with the CIA SNL stories and Walter made sure of course was the center in the center of it and and he his story

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the center of it and and he his story the story that Hill was scheduled to lead it off I mean because he's the glue that holds all this together and it's very difficult to understand the story without Walter wisher now there may be somebody above measure telling him what to do and I was told by a couple of people in Houston that there is indeed when I was never able to identify that person if indeed that person exists but midshire was is the key middle man and the key broker of all the deals and without him it's very difficult to understand these stories the stories were scheduled to run in in the the winter of 1989 we sent them over to the Houston post law firm Fulbright & Jaworski to read for libel they sort of read all the stories for libel and try to give us advice usually they they had the authority although they shouldn't have to kill stories that they thought might get us in the liable trouble well Fulbright & Jaworski went through the ceiling on mission they immediately reacted now we can't run this stuff and gave a lot of bogus reasons for not doing so so we began in in the in February of 1992 run the CIA stories but nothing on mission we had Corson we had a Kansas City guy named Farhad Azima we had a little savings alone Atlanta called people's that was was lending money to CIA people in Florida we had silverado savings in San Jacinto and we ran all these these stories but nothing on mission and we ran out of stories eventually in the in the summer of 1990 it must been difficult to write your story with the main actor not being able very different and and most of the national media reacted negatively I mean they they did not pick up the story they said you know they it was too hard to understand and a

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they it was too hard to understand and a lot of other reasons I think and also the Houston post is to blame for for one thing we're not running a big series they would just have one story and wait several weeks and run another one and wait and I think it's just because they were afraid of the story and they were afraid you know they just kind of wanted to stick their little foot in the water and see if it got bit off and then run another one if it didn't and so they were they were released for radical II and there was no mission in it so a lot of the

national media did not pick up I don't know if it run them as a series and had measure whether they had any more impact it's difficult to tell the national media really handles the CIA with kid gloves and we can talk about that later wine if you liked it but anyway we've run out of stories so I went back to the Mischer stuff and I tried to get that in again and the editor signed off on it they approved it I thought I had met all of Fulbright & Jaworski objections and they were scheduled to run in the last of December of 1990 and then at the very last moment for Ron Jaworski refused to sign off on the stories the editors even though the city editor wanted to run them and really recommended running them over for Roger skis and objections the editor in chief decided not to do it not through the mr. stories now during this period I was talking I was at my folks ranch it was Christmas time I was talking to the city editor and the for Brian Jaworski associate that was handling the mr. styles guy named Tom God bolt and I was talking on the front of the city edges said God Baal won't sign off on and and I was I was furious and I said his jobs probably on the line I bet he won't get made partner if he doesn't kill these stories you know I was just just talking I was mad well six

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was just just talking I was mad well six weeks later I'd taken leave lessons to write work on the book and I had lunch with the city editor and he looked at he said guess what God bow just got made partner and that's a little bright and beachy so that's when I started looking for conflicts of interest now a year and a half earlier when God bow was objecting to all the mission stuff I directly asked him do you have any just full [___] have any conflicts of interest with these stories and he said not that I know of okay when I found close to a dozen conflicts of interest including the faithful Ron Jaworski was representing miche's company in a wrongful death lawsuit at the same time they were telling us we couldn't run these stories about Walter mission in addition they were also doing other things for measure as well as doing legal things for Palmer National Bank this Bank in Washington DC they had represented Howard Pulver's company in an insurance deal and honor they had laundered money for a for the CIA basically through the MD Anderson foundation and conflict after conflict I dug on full run Jaworski now I went to the Houston post I told them about these conflicts and the Houston post did nothing and so I knew that then I could not go - back back to work for the Houston post if I'm going to have to run everything through Fulbright & Jaworski he was serving is the ultimate editors and the only stories so was it at this time you decided to go to the book route that you'd resign from the Houston post and try to write this up as a book well actually it had happened earlier during the middle of the stories I was writing for the for the post in the summer of 1990 Simon & Schuster came to me actually approached me with an idea of writing a book for them Simon Schuster is either the first or second largest publishing company a country and a

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publishing company a country and a company in this country and very prestigious and they flew me up to New York City and rolled out the red carpet and made me a very big offer to write the book for them hundred thousand eight hundred thousand dollar advance which is probably bigger than any advance on a savings and loan Brooke there's been been written and so we began negotiating a contract and I was insistent in the beginning at the very beginning that the book be published before the 1992 presidential election when this isn't by the way summer of 1990 and because not only because of what I found on George Bush but what I found on Lloyd Bentsen and at that time it certainly wasn't beyond the realm of possibility that the 90 election was going to be Bush versus Benson and in fact if you recall when Clinton had all the trouble and earlier this year with in January February Jennifer flowers and the draft he said that if he dropped out he was going to throw his support behind Lloyd Bentsen and now we have Benson being the leading candidate for the Secretary of Treasury okay so I was pushing very hard and for Brian's work ski actually modified their standard contract to shorten the time between acceptance and publication in silence she was Thomas Schuster I'm sorry to shore the time between acceptance and publication and I eventually signed a contract with a man and when I took a leave of absence from the post to write the book I submitted the book on deadline and I got back an editing later a couple of months after that that totally was something wasn't

exactly right here because they wrote me a four-page letter that was just full of vague nonsense and he was not helpful at all and when I submitted the manuscript on deadline I again put in writing that the book had to be published before the

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the book had to be published before the 1992 election in writing so we begin the editing process and I tried to accommodate their suggestions and I really couldn't I made some alternative suggestions they okayed it I submit a revised manuscript in February of this year at 92 and after they got the revised manuscript but before they'd even read it they really cut me off they would not return my phone calls my fax is my letters nothing and so I was fairly desperate at that time and I knew that they had what they call their fall list the list of all books they published in the latter part of the year and I knew that my book had to be on there to get out before the election and so when they wouldn't return my phone calls or talk to me I eventually made an appointment just to fly out to New York City and see them and if that was that only at that time that that they that they returned my phone call and I told the editor who was Alice Mayhew who was Bob Woodward's and I'm very famous editor you know that the book needed to go before the election we needed to get going and she said she wasn't going to do that we're not going to do the book before the election and I said why not you know all this stuff about bursting American public needs to know and she said quote George Bush is going to win anyway and then she turned out to be wrong but even so it struck me as non-fee I mean what difference does that make about getting getting the information before the public and in what how does she know that what's going to happen in it was I get in ten months or so but why do you think Simon & Schuster refused to publish the book before the election was ready to go right well as it was basically ready and if they'd wanted to they could have he was not me Silas Schuster is a very big company I mean I eventually got the book published before

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eventually got the book published before the election with a small company I mean they could have put two editors on it and we could have done it they didn't I don't know I mean I don't want to speculate on their motives but there's some interesting connections in fact I knew this going in I knew about the connections between Simon & Schuster and George Bush and the Houston power brokers oh how does that well one of George Bush's best friends and longtime business associates hewlett key chair of the board of Pennzoil is on the board of directors of Simon & Schuster's parent corporation paramount communications & hué Lake he's actually in my book in regard to a very strange bank in Houston that he was on the board up also paramount communications used to be is the successor company to Gulf and Western the conglomerate that were one of the founding fathers is John Duncan of Houston whose brother Charles was secretary of energy under the Carter Administration and these people are in investments with people who connect to Walter mission and and back to George Bush and so I knew this going in I just thought it'd be poetic justice for silence you stir to publish this book you know but apparently they knew about it too I guess Pete you've been you've been dealing with some pretty unsavory and dangerous characters here the CIA and the Mafia have you had any threats in your life or you been fearful of it well not that I know you know kind of slow maybe I got threatened and I didn't realize it but nothing directly I mean these people usually leave reporters and they don't you know threaten reporters I mean they may try to keep the book from being published or they might threaten you with I mean I've been threatened with lawsuits Oh I mean they will do that but not physically threatened and you know they the way they operate is to keep

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they the way they operate is to keep people like Simon Shuster from publishing the book or keep anybody from posting or keeping it from being distributed and so you know they work indirectly not I mean if anything happened to me that would just bring more publicity on this and which is the last thing they want I mean that the way they reacting to the book is that they're really sort of kind of hunkering down and ignoring it and figuring that any publicity will banished eventually and disappear have you been contacted by Larry King yet

or any of the national media show no interest in this the only one exception is the Village Voice that published a excellent article on your book and on your research by Jonathan kwitny who's also an investigative reporter of some renowned write that happened when scientists used to told me they were not going to publish before the election I contacted kwitny I'd been in touch with Jonathan quitting because he'd written a number of books on the site on the Mafia and the CIA and you know I wanted to sort of do a reality check and send the manuscript acquit me and ask him whether he thought it should be published before the election just to make sure that I wasn't hallucinating maybe Simon Schuster was right and so I sent the manuscript to quitly and he ran it and agreed with me that it should be published before the election and he was helping me you know get the information out and actually was we've gone to a number of different publications to try to do you know a serialization of the book and eventually The Village Voice did it but just barely before the election and even though the book was printed four weeks before the election it really didn't get out I mean it should have been out in the summer you know I really apologize I did everything that I didn't have and and if you told somebody and say May of this year

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told somebody and say May of this year that you can get a book published in five months they would have laughed at you so it was not possible well we did it but just barely let's talk a little bit about the sort of final response of your work by the establishment by journalists Congress and then possibly the public and how you reacted to the sort of non-response of the sort of journalists establishment and then the Congress you yourself was a reporter for the human Houston post you published these articles about the CIA and the SNL's were explosive investigative reporting and they weren't picked up by the national media what did this lead you to conclude towards the press in the United States just change your attitude anyway I mean some of the press picked up the stories but the the television networks and the big three the New York Times The Washington Post The Wall Street Journal never did anything and I personally think the reason they didn't was because it wasn't their story okay and they like to do their own investigative work and they were very far behind it would have been impossible for them to do the work it would take to do these stories in a manner that would you know there would be a good job and these these institutions had not even done the S&L stories right I mean they had ignore basically nor have done a little bit but it was all that they were just recycling the work that had basically been done by the Dallas Morning News and Byron Harrison WFAA in Dallas which was to write about all the wheeler-dealer Don Dixon ed McBurney types and that began to be sort of the pattern of investigative reporting if you did investigative reporting on SNL you wrote about all the while and crazy guys down in Texas that were looting this these SNL's and you didn't do what

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this these SNL's and you didn't do what you should have done which was follow the money that's a big advice you know deep throat gave Bob Woodward in Watergate follow the money that's where the that's where the story is that's where the story is in the SNL's that the reporters did not do that it was right about the frontman and a while and crazy guys so these institutions did not do a very good job on the SNL's so they didn't have the foundation to do either the Mafia or the CIA involvement so you know if if you don't do stunts they're they're the kind of institutions of people that just ignore it you know it's not our story it's not worth doing we're just going to ignore it you know if we didn't do it it must not be worth anything so that's exactly what happened now what about Congress when you first made these revelations that the CIA was involved in robbing the CIA the savings and loan and using the money to help support the Contras and other illegal off-the-book operations Congress made some noise that they were going to do some investigation what came out of this well actually the house permanent Subcommittee on intelligence which has oversight of the CIA did a preliminary investigation by their staff and it eventually came up and said there's nothing to this but it's interest there are several interesting points to note number one they never did what they should have done which was tracking the money they relied on the CIA for all their information and even the CIA admitted that other like the 20 institutions we named that they had dealt with for them and that they had dealt with five of the individuals we're doing but they had done nothing wrong and the thing is that the staff director

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and the thing is that the staff director of the House Intelligence Committee who was overseeing the investigation guy named Dan Childs had come from the CIA was the chief financial officer of the CIA it had been brought over to the intelligence subcommittee right before my stories came out and the CIA of course was aware the I had been talking to them for months so they knew that my stories were going to break soon dan Childs also had been brought in ten years earlier in the Senate Intelligence Committee that had been doing the church investigation was exposing all the illegal domestic activities of CIA Childs had been brought in for damage control it certainly looked like he was being brought in for damage control and in fact after they released their report saying there was nothing to this Childs went back to see now he's the executive assistant to the CIA director this is shameless it's like this guy Paul Garr who was put in charge of investigating iran-contra who was another lifetime CIA operatives station chief about six different places as point out in your book so basically Congress didn't do anything they covered it up the press really didn't do anything and now the Clinton administration faces as much as a five hundred billion dollar price tag for the CIA scandal so what can the government finally do about this Congress and the Justice Department can track the money that's all they have to do if there was fraud involved they can get it back and they haven't done this I mean everybody's acting like it's a foregone conclusion that we've lost five hundred billion dollars you know okay taxpayers take the hit and go on it's not true the Justice Department is very capable of tracking this money they can track drug money it starts out as cash in United States goes offshore and comes back surely they can track S&L money it's always a paper or wire transfer it's

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always a paper or wire transfer it's easy to track if you got subpoena power Congress could do it but they're not doing it and I don't know whether Clinton is going to make the Justice Department do this or not you know where it's going to be interesting here a new Attorney General is going to be and whether they're going to go out I mean I don't see any indication of Clinton's part that he has any interest in kicking this sleeping dog and I think he just wants to let it lie and not mess with it because his party is just as involved as a Republicans and so I don't see there's going to have to take just be mass revoked by the American people and American people don't have the information so what is the responsibility of the press and the citizens to do something about this S&L scandal well I mean the press has got to do the reporting and the citizens have to do the complaining you're watching alternative views we turn now to some news stories from the alternative press world press review has some the stories some opinions of various newspapers are around the world most of the quotes are oh not all that significant but there are a couple of them that touch might be interested in one from Munich independent newspapers says it's difficult to discern a program or policy in the new president's persona he succeeded in pleasing everyone and antagonizing no one and it was a very perfect marketing strategy so their conclusion was a Clinton was not elected Bush was summarily fired at in Tehran they said that our experience with the USA during the past half-century has left us with no illusions about either Republicans or Democrats a desire for hegemony is so deep rooted in the psyche

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hegemony is so deep rooted in the psyche of the American political establishment that the new president even though he's a Democrat has no choice but to tread the path of norm in traditional US a foreign policy one of Bill Clinton's chief campaign pledges was to limit the influence of lobbyists in Washington DC well the New York Times News Service reports that his transition team has extensive industry and ties and ties to foreign countries for instance Vernon Jordan the transition chairman earns at least four hundred and forty two thousand dollars a year from in fees from sitting on the boards of eleven corporate giants including Union Carbide American Express Xerox and the debt-laden RJR Nabisco Jordan also holds almost a million dollars worth of stock in these companies in his law firm akin gump Hauer & Feld represents at least seven of these corporations as well and as a senior partner he shares in the law firms Park profits the transition director working right under Jordan Warren Christopher is the senior partner in one of the nation's largest law firms O'Melveny and whose clients include Mitsui Sumitomo trust and banking Japan Airlines and Hyundai and

during the campaign Clinton made a point of criticizing lobbyists who work for foreign interests but the Japanese interests at least are well represented in his transition team as well. Christopher earned at least 73 thousand dollars last year from sitting on the boards of Lockheed Corporation in Southern California. Edison and his firm also represents both corporations so you can imagine what sort of feelings this person is going to have about regulating utilities and also military cutbacks. Also a Mickey Kantor or another board member on the transition team is a member of men at Phelps Phillips and Cantor which has done works for the government, done work for the governments of Cyprus and Jamaica and for a wide array of for-profit healthcare.

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array of for-profit healthcare corporations, real estate and transportation firms, he also does lobbying for Japan's NEC Corporation, the cable television industry and a number of big oil companies. He also on the side conducted a policy brief briefing for a number of his clients and potential clients including General Electric. Samuel Berger, another member of the transition team's foreign policy director, also has four years presided over an international trade firm, practically international trade practice that Hogan and Hartson, a law firm whose clients have included Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Bahamas, Ontario, Japan again and the trading arm of China as well as the Toshiba Corporation of Japan. Japan and when Toshiba got in trouble with the US government for exporting a sensitive technology to the Soviet Union, Berger was there in Washington helping to defend Toshiba's interests as Ralph Nader put it. Cesar Chavez isn't getting any calls and there have been widespread complaints from the coalition that elected Clinton which includes many civil rights leaders, people working from migrant farmers, people working for other minority rights that people from these institutions just haven't been called upon. Clinton's gone for the traditional lobbyists and lawyers who have always been sitting inside the beltway dictating what's done to the congressman. I think it's very significant that what was that from the New York Times, Washington Post, New York Times news, right see they're not going to point out other connections and interconnections with Clinton and the staff that he's putting together. For instance, I look at the sociology of leadership, what organizations do these people come from and who are the other people that they associate with. Well, Bill Clinton was a member of the Bilderbergers, that secret organization as well as the Council on Foreign Relations. Vernon Jordan is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations in the trilateral commission.

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Relations in the trilateral commission. Warren Christopher is a member of all three of those elite organizations. Henry Little Henry Cisneros is a member of the CFR and of course Lloyd Bentsen, they say are going to be our new Secretary of Treasury, he attended Bilderberg meetings there recently as well so the people that Clinton has in his transition team are people from this very small group of elite organizations and very few people are members of these organizations. Council on Foreign Relations only has about 15,700 but the number of people in government from these organizations is huge compared to their size so we're seeing the same type of thing that we did before in the in actually in the Bush and Reagan years they came from these organizations. Well the Carter people that Carter so it's just basically Carter, Carter revisited except Clinton is more conservative than Carter and Clinton came from the Democratic Leadership Council which was their rebellion against the liberal hegemony of the Democrats and I saw a statistics where it said that the Congress people who also everything support the Democratic Leadership Council they voted with the Reagan Bush years they voted for Reagan and Bush eighty to ninety percent of the time so it's questionable is how much change the Bill Clinton wants or how much he can achieve even if he wants it so this I think is a major indication that at least when it comes to economics it's going to be business as usual with the Clinton administration. My guess is the Clinton's going to continue the conservative policies of the previous decade in the area of economics and foreign policy and he'll have a much more liberal agenda on social issues.

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more liberal agenda on social issues World Press review has a couple of articles about the Mafia which are really quite disturbing says that the Mafia like the rest of the economy in the 80s has gone global global and has forged alliances wherever it's needed to killed wherever it's needed to and is sponsoring indigenous crime syndicates under its control in a lot of countries where they weren't operating before particularly say in Eastern Europe it has managed to come to grips and work out relationships with the Turkish heroin bosses the Columbia drug cartels so internationally it's but it's stronger than it ever has been and even you know you hear references here and there to the Russian mafia taking over so much of what is happening in the chaos then in Russia right now well that mafia is actually connected with the Italian Sicilian Mafia things have changed a bit though and that the mafia still kills and Italy they've seen that however they've kind of gone along with the Colombian style of killing now they use instead of just a very clean and assassinations with their rifles or so there's that were submachine guns they're doing it now with car bombs which actually killed some a lot of civilians as well as an indication of the strength and internationalization of the mafia on st. Valentine's Day appropriately enough in 1989 there is a meeting in niece of members of the international consortium of illegals the Sicilian Mafia which is the octopus the giant mafia they also with representatives of the Colombian and Venezuelan cartels

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Venezuelan cartels well they all got together so that they could divide up the world's spoils so they wouldn't have competition with each other they wouldn't be trampling on each other or they wouldn't have to be killing each other cartelization of crime around the world and what's happening in Italy there have been some well-publicized assassinations recently and the people have had a lot of outcry against the mafia but this has been going on for some time there will be assassinations people come up in arms there will be investigations and the government's say well we're gonna do something about it but then nothing ever gets done it's business as usual and that is because according the world press from your articles the establishment and Italy is right in bed has a very cozy working relationship with the Mafia and so they're not doing anything about it so they're becoming stronger and stronger all around the world it's ironic this parallel development with international capital and the Mafia keeps lockstep right along with it well according to the New York Times the rising cost of modernity is depression if the 20th century ushered in the age of anxiety its exit according to The Times is witnessing the dawn of the age of melancholy the first international study of major depression reveals a steady rise in the disorder worldwide the nation's as diverse as the United States Taiwan Lebanon and New Zealand in these countries in each generation the possibility of getting serious depression not just sadness but a paralyzing listlessness dejection self-depreciation an overwhelming sense of hopelessness that these days is three times likely or that you're going to get this depression it's going to set in then your grandparents there's been a lot of speculation applied

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lot of speculation applied Kali is on the rise some speculate the loss and a belief of God takes away a buffer against life's setbacks others say that is stress created in women by the spread of unattainable ideals of female beauty is a cause whereas others say that it's physiological that has to do more with exposure to toxic substances and there's been a big debate over why younger Americans also in recent years have had a much much higher case of melancholy than the former generation recent studies in journals in the United States indicate that there's a much much higher proportion of people that again getting melancholy these days and it's become a modern epidemic I have a couple of short articles here on Pollan one from the world press review of let's see where does happen December 1992 and the other from dollars and cents and where's that from these also December 1992 the world press review says that the Polish government foresees five more years of recession before things start becoming a little bit better for the people in Poland and it seems that even that five years taking of lead long was a compromise between the reformists and the people who want to go a bit slower and ease the pain but according to dollars and cents it's ironic that the people are supposedly forcing this on the people all this pain are the people who actually used to come from the labor ranks remember like walenta was the leader of a labor union solidarity now the in the summer of 92 group of unions

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the in the summer of 92 group of unions that has spearheaded solidarity are now going out and wildcat strikes against solidarity in the well as valensa leadership but there's a very interesting quote by the Prime minister who went from the workers started striking she sent out dismissal notices to them he was kicked him out and so the leaders of the strike immediately scaled back their wage demands well the woman who was the prime minister came from a satellite party of the Communists originally back in 1984 and she was expelled from the party for voting against taking away solidarity's legal status but she's changed her mind now here's what she says about the workers for 40 years the workers were treated as the most important class on which the whole system of the state stood and it's very bitter for them to understand that the new conditions require them to step down to a very low status and that brings us to the end of this alternative views frequently hear from viewers who request a list of news publications which we use on alternative views and also a reading list for a u.s. power structure in the mass media if you would like to have these send a stamped self-addressed envelope to the alternative Information Network peel Box 7279 Austin Texas seven eight seven one three you must send a self-addressed stamped envelope we'd like to extend our thanks to a lot of people who helped make the program possible particularly Pete Bruton who wrote the incredible

[00:58:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fk_TcWx7uoM&t=3480s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fk_TcWx7uoM&t=3480s)

Pete Bruton who wrote the incredible book the Mafia the CIA and George Bush our crew for the interview consisted of Brian Lynch Ashley Blake Mary McDonald and Deena Craven for our news section Eric Ewbank was on camera Kevin L West did the audio alternative views as a production of the alternative information net work p.o box 7 to 17 Austin Texas 7 8 7 1 3 goodbye

END